

RES. CONTROL  
GOING LTR. NO

RF 0256

DIST

off, F.H.

en, J. H.

ingame, A. X

era, D. W.

is, L. R.

ncis, G. E.

owin, R. X

ay, T. J.

ker, E. H.

sh, J. M. X

by, W. A.

estic, J. R.

Kinley, K. M. X

llen, J. B.

nell, R. F.

nford, T. H.

annon, W. M.

n Leuven, D.

ner, B. P. X

ung, E. R.

cher, D. H. X

rnival, G. J.

rman, L. K.

bert, J. L.

hman, R. B.

mann, R. L.

eg, D. M.

uodenberg, G.

imon, E. R.

woy, R. L.

ner, H. L.

asquez, R. N.

res. Control X

tract Admin X

classification:

classified X

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TH, CLASSEIER SIG

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Reply to Ltr. No.

APPROVALS:

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## EG&G ROCKY FLATS

EG&G ROCKY FLATS, INC.

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January 18, 1990

RF-90-0256

David P. Simonson

Manager

DOE, RFO

Ref: D. P. Simonson ltr to B. P. Warner, Request For Information From  
General Accounting Office, January 12, 1990

The following narrative and attachments are submitted to answer the above  
referenced request. The responses are provided in the same numerical  
order as the request.

1. Background information on the pondcrete problem is found in the  
attached Unusual Occurrence Report (UOR RFP #88-7-788 88-1,  
Enclosure: 1). In addition to the causes shown in the UOR, the  
problem was exacerbated by the outdoor storage of the pondcrete  
while the disposal facility was being permitted for mixed waste. As  
noted, the problem was multi-faceted and involved several  
disciplines. Also noted in the UOR, the deformed boxes were  
discovered on May 23, 1988 by the Operations foremen.

The stored pondcrete inventory requires repackaging into plywood  
boxes, even if some of the waste forms had not destabilized. The  
triwalls containers had deteriorated and the criteria for package  
acceptance at NTS was also revised to require 4000 pounds per square  
foot compressive strength. The additional cost, therefore, covers  
the increased labor, materials and facilities for the remixing  
operation. Furthermore, in order to meet new RCRA regulations for  
land disposal restrictions by May 8, 1990, three additional remix  
facilities are being implemented.

2. The cost to correct the pondcrete problem is budgeted at \$15.9M for  
FY90. The original FY90 budget prior to the accelerated efforts was  
\$14.6M, which leaves a total additional cost of \$1.3M. This budget  
includes all personnel and equipment necessary for repackaging and  
remixing all of the pondcrete triwalls on the pads.

If all of the pondcrete triwalls had originally been properly mixed  
(not require remixing), they would still require repackaging.  
Approximately \$1M could be saved from the above budget if the  
pondcrete problem had not occurred.

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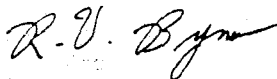
D. P. Simonson  
January 18, 1990  
90-RF-0256  
Page 2

The actual number of pondcrete blocks (triwalls) involved is 13,276 (as of January 7, 1990). It has been estimated that 6976 triwalls will need to be repackaged and 6310 triwalls will require remixing.

3. The current status of the pondcrete problem is as follows:  
~~Currently none of the estimated 6310 pondcrete triwalls requiring~~  
remixing have been processed. An enclosure for the mixing facility located outside of Building 788 has been designed and should be constructed by January 30, 1990. Three additional remixing facilities have been designed and will be located inside of heated tension membrane structures being erected on the pads. These facilities will be ready for operation the later part of January.

Approximately 126 people have been hired to date to operate the remixing and repackaging facilities.

4. Pondcrete is being stored at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) in what is referred to as interim retrievable storage, in compliance with the NTS interim RCRA permit. The final RCRA permit will specify the permanent disposal configuration. A likely option will be to leave the waste in place with additional earth over, or the waste may have to be relocated to another storage pit at the NTS.
5. The December 13, 1988 letter to Mr Twining is enclosed (Enclosure: 2).
6. The July 1986 DOE/EPA compliance agreement is enclosed (Enclosure: 3).
7. No other documents were deemed germane.
8. Point of contact for further questions is R. V. Bynum, Process Technology Development, Building 371, FTS 320-7100.



R. V. Bynum, Manager  
Process Technology Development

RVB:akb

Enclosures:  
As Stated

Orig. and 1 cc - D. P. Simonson